Getting To Know

GOD

Norvel Hayes

Good Will Come to You

In Job 22:21 it says: Acquaint now thyself with him [God], and be at peace.... Always remember that if you have lost your peace, you are on the wrong road. When that happens to you, you need to get into a room by yourself, with no one around, and spend some time worshipping the Lord and praising His Name until you get your perfect peace back.

The Lord Jesus Christ has perfect peace for every believer. He has perfect peace for every follower of Him.

The Bible says to acquaint *now* yourself— *now,* not after a while.

Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

Job 22:21

Good in everything will come to you.

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

Job 22:22

The Mouth Agrees With the Heart

The only reason that people don't get healed is because they don't have healing verses memorized. The only reason people don't get blessed in certain ways is that they don't have the verses that pertain to their need memorized in their heart. How do I know that? Because what a person has memorized in his heart will come out of his mouth.

Your mouth only speaks what is in your heart. You can say in a general way, "Well, I love the Lord, and I believe the Bible," but that won't heal you. It may be true to a certain degree. But you need to learn that God is a specific God. He's not a general God.

You may say, "Well, I believe God can do anything." Well, that's a first-class sign you don't believe anything. You are trying to pull a cop-out on God, and He won't accept that.

If you believe the Lord Jesus Christ is your Healer and you want to be healed, then *call* Jesus your Healer. Be specific about it. *Call* the Lord Jesus Christ your Healer.

Someone may say, "Brother Norvel, I have to have a miracle." Well, the Lord Jesus Christ is a Miracle-worker! He has miracle power, and it is a free gift to the church.

Your Mind and Mouth Can Be Your Worst Enemy

And as a believer of the Lord Jesus Christ, you have a right to a miracle. But you have to take the miracle away from the devil and away from your mind. As long as you live in the world of your mind, you are never going to receive a miracle from God. Your mind and your mouth are two of your worst enemies.

The reason that is true is that sometimes you speak words out of your mouth because of the way you feel, and most of the time your feelings will lie to you. Your mind can be a cesspool to which the devil makes supernatural suggestions.

If the enemy is allowed to keep on bombarding your mind with false suggestions, you might just go ahead and act on his lies. "Well, bless God, I'll do whatever I want to do." No, you can't get anywhere like that. You have to find out what the Lord wants you to do and obey Him if you want to be mightily blessed.

You Need the Mind of Christ

That's the reason the Bible plainly tells you that you need to have the mind of Christ in your mind all the time. And don't ever let God's Word depart from your eyes. Keep it in your brain and keep it in your spirit all the time. It will also help you to memorize some specific verses pertaining to your need, (for instance, healing verses, financial verses, wisdom verses, miracle verses, love verses, gifts of the Spirit verses, and fruit of the spirit verses).

If you will memorize those verses and get them in your heart, your mind and your mouth will have something to

work with. But you have to get grounded in God's Word and memorize it, and get it down on the inside of you. You have to let it become branded on the inside of you by memorizing it and then quoting it several hundred times. That is how it becomes a part of you.

Make the Word a Part of You

The only part of the Bible that ever works for you permanently is the part that you have made a part of *you.* When a scripture begins to become a part of you like your right arm, it will work for you! But it only works for you when your mouth speaks it out.

The Bible says that **out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh** (Matthew 12:34). Whatever is in your heart, your mouth will speak out.

You never have to ask a person what kind of shape they are in spiritually or otherwise. Just go have lunch with them and let them talk for a while, and you'll find out exactly what kind of shape they are in. Their mouth will tell on them. What they have in their heart is what their mouth will speak out.

You Choose What Goes in Your Heart

The only thing the mouth has to work with is what you put in your heart. And you put things in your heart by choice. Every human being on earth has the same choice. You can listen to the Lord Jesus Christ and follow Him, or you can do your own thing. You don't have to follow the Lord.

Now if you do your own thing, you are going to live a rough life, full of chuck holes, climbing mountains. But the Bible says to get acquainted with God and listen to Him; then peace will come unto you.

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

Job 22:22

You see, you *receive* when you lay up His words in your heart.

If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity FAR from thy tabernacles.

Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.

Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

Job 22:23-27

The Bible says that any man who cries out to the Lord or makes his prayer unto Him day and night for something- asking God for it, believing and thanking Him for it, and glorifying His name for it day and night— Jesus said that the God who made us will give the answer to a person like that.

The Bible says that a human being who wants something has to do one thing, and one thing only, and it doesn't cost a dime: "Let thy request be made known unto God."

Whatever You Need, Go to God

Do you want a new kidney? Do you want to be blessed financially? Do you want the fruit of the spirit to operate through you (which is the greatest thing in the world, to get along with people). Do you want all of the gifts of the Spirit to operate through you? Do you want the Holy Ghost to give them to you? Whatever you may want, He said, **"Let thy request be made known unto** *God"* –nobody else.

God doesn't like it when you go to a human being and ask them for all kinds of things. God is a jealous God, and if you are following the Lord Jesus Christ, God doesn't like it when you go to a human being and ask them for anything. He wants you to come to Him. God doesn't like to be bypassed.

The Bible says that God is a jealous God, and He doesn't like it when you make a request of somebody else and start putting pressure on other people to give you what you need. One of the worst things you can do in life is go to people and try to make them give you what you need.

If the human beings in the church world could only understand that the Lord *loves* it when He hears their voice. He is waiting and longing to hear their voice. The Bible says that is what makes God happy.

A God who can speak worlds into existence wants to hear you — one of His children — crying out to Heaven, approaching

Heaven, letting your request be made known unto Him, thanking Him before you ever see it, day and night, for hours at a time.

Pass the Test of Faith

God says, "The thing that makes Me full of joy and happier than anything else is when one of my children passes the test of faith and refuses to accept defeat. I can hear them believing Me in truth for something before they ever see it. The thing that makes Me the happiest is when I get to give to My children what they request."

Look at the next several verses from Job:

Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee...

Job 22:27

If you make a prayer unto God, He will hear you. Of course, you understand, it has to be the prayer of faith! I have a book that tells about ten things that causes your faith to work in perfection after you learn what faith is.

Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

Job 22:27

If you'll pay your vows unto God (for instance, you really should tithe if you want God's best blessing), look what He says in verse 28:

Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

Job 22:28

Decree something that you want and claim it in Jesus' Name. "I *decree* that my Uncle John is not going to go to hell. I *decree* that my sister who is not following the Lord is not going to go to hell. I *decree* that my daddy will never go to hell in Jesus' name!"

Decree it and speak it out for the rest of your life, and something will happen before your daddy dies, and he will accept the Lord.

Decree it. *Refuse* to let any of your loved ones go to hell. Just decree it. And don't ever talk any other way. I don't care if they are mean to you or curse at you; just decree it anyway. Let's look in Proverbs chapter 13.

A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

Proverbs 13:1-3

Just make sure that when you open up your lips and your mouth, you don't talk about people and you don't run them down; you just speak good things.

When you do that, God Almighty will bless you so much you can't hardly stand it. God says if you will do it, you will keep your life. If you don't do it, destruction will come upon your finances and upon your body.

Be Diligent

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Proverbs 13:3,4

Let me expound on verse 4: The soul of a lazy person desires things, but he has nothing. And he won't ever have anything. If somebody gives him something, he'll lose that too.

God will bless you when you are diligent. Look at verse 5.

Find True Riches

A righteous man hateth lying: but a wicked man is loathsome, and cometh to shame.

Righteousness keepeth him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthroweth the sinner.

There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing...

Proverbs 13:5-7

You have a lot of knowledge to make money, but you don't know the Lord Jesus Christ and His peace. You are rich, but you have nothing.

...there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.

Proverbs 13:7

I have known people who didn't have very much money at all, but they knew God real well. They wouldn't talk about people — you couldn't hire them to. And they didn't tell lies; they just knew God real well. They had no knowledge about how to make money, but they just knew God real well.

And I have known people who give everything away to God. Every time they get something, they go give it to the poor. They just give away everything they have. But they have great riches in their heart and in their mind.

The ransom of a man's life are his riches: but the poor heareth not rebuke. The light of the righteous rejoiceth: but the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.

Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished but he that gathereth [wealth or income] **by labour shall increase.**

Proverbs 13:8-11

If you get wealth the wrong way, you will lose it. Make your money by using your mind, and make your money by using your labor. Figure things out, labor, work—and you will increase.

Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life. Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed...

Proverbs 13:12

If you despise to hear the Bible preached or to hear it read, you will be destroyed on this earth. You will destroy yourself.

Whoso despiseth the word [or the Bible] **shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.**

The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

Proverbs 13:13,14

What is the law of the wise? The law of the wise is the Bible. The Bible is God's law book.

How To Break Every Chain of Bondage

Someone may ask, "How can I get out of all these troubles and all these burdens, and the snares of death, and all these crazy things that try to come upon me? Has God given me instructions about how I can get strong enough to overcome those things?"

Oh, definitely. Let's look at Isaiah chapter 58. You are going to learn how to overcome those things and to break the bands of wickedness and the chains of unsuccess — any kind of chains of bondage.

Is not this the fast that I have chosen?...

Isaiah 58:6

Sometimes God doesn't choose a long fast for you. And if I were you, I would never go on a long fast unless the Lord told me to.

Brother Kenneth Hagin told me one time, "Norvel, I've been in the ministry over sixty years. When I was on the field, I would fast usually every Tuesday, sometimes every Tuesday and every Thursday.

"But if something came up where I had a special need and I wanted to bring a petition before God, or if I wanted to break the power of something that was trying to mess me up, I would start fasting and praying."

If you are going to fast, you need to pray; if you don't, you might get a headache.

He said, "In more than fifty years of ministry when I did that, I always got my answer; the attack of the enemy was always broken. It would take one day, two days, *never* longer than three days, of fasting to break the power of anything trying to get victory over me. A lot of times I would get it in one day.

Sometimes it took two days. But it never took more than three days in all those years."

A lot of times you just need to fast one meal and pray and take authority over the problem, and you will get your answer. Sometimes it takes two meals, sometimes one or two days. Most of the time you won't have to go to the third day.

When you fast, your spirit becomes strong enough to get victory because it keeps your flesh under subjection. Unless your spirit is grounded in God's Word, unless you have a portion of the Abraham-kind of faith and the Jesus-kind of faith inside of your own human spirit — your flesh and your body and your mind will rule you in life.

But if you regularly fast one or two days, you keep your flesh under subjection. You are not feeding your flesh; you are taking away the power of your flesh. You are building up your spirit, which is on the inside of your flesh. And your spirit gets stronger and sharper.

The Condition of Your Spirit Revealed by Your Mouth

The only time a human being doesn't get victory is when his human spirit is not strong enough spiritually to get the victory. Jesus said, "All things are possible to him that believeth."

You see, God is a Spirit, so you believe God with your spirit. And the condition of your spirit comes out of your mouth. Unless you rule your flesh, sometimes you will just do or say what you feel or what you want to. Well, you're not going to get very much victory doing that.

But you can fast one or two meals, or whatever it takes to keep your flesh under subjection, and pray while you're fasting. Someone may ask, "Is that in the Bible?" Yes, it's in the Bible. In fact, God chose that ministry just for you. Fasting is a ministry from God to us.

The Fast God Chooses

Is not this the fast that I have chosen?...
Isaiah 58:6

God is asking you a question. "Is not this the fast that I have chosen?" And then you come along with a problem and say, "Chosen for what, Lord?"

And then God answers: **...to loose the bands of wickedness** [from around you or others who are close to you], **to undo the heavy burdens** [that are trying to burden you down. God doesn't want you burdened down with heavy burdens.], **and to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?** (Isaiah 58:6).

Break every yoke. You see, the devil has the yoke of poverty to put on you. The devil has the yoke of disease to put on you. The devil has the yoke of doubt to put on you so you can't receive your miracle. The devil has all kinds of yokes to put around your neck to let you know that you are not going to receive.

The devil looks at conditions. He will point out every condition he possibly can to convince you that you are not

going to receive.

But God says, "Remember, I'm God and I love you. I'll make a way where there is no way." So believe God for things when it looks impossible to you. When you hear, "There's no way!" that's your mind working. Don't say, "There's no way," that is a lie. God warns you in the Bible not to lean to your own understanding.

God says to lean on a God that can make a door where there is no door. Lean on a God that can make a way where there is no way. God can give you victory where there is no victory, where it looks desolate and dark and lonely and sad. As you lean on Him, the light of the morning will come upon you.

Is not this the fast that I have chosen?...that ye break every yoke?

Isaiah 58:6

You break the yoke yourself! Someone may say, "Brother Norvel, I'm not strong enough to break it." I know you may not be strong enough to break it now, because you are living in natural conditions; you haven't paid the price. *But* when you obey the instructions of the Lord Jesus Christ and pay the price, when you fast for a meal or two or three and pray and your flesh gets weak and your spirit gets strong, *then* you can break that yoke.

God says, "Is not this the fast I have not chosen for you, to break every yoke?" Not some of the yokes, *every* yoke.

Look at verse 7: "And is it not to help others also?" Fasting also gets your spirit into shape to help others.

Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry...

Isaiah 58:7

Someone says, "Now Brother Norvel, I don't want to give some of my bread to a hungry person. I don't delight in that." Well, if you fast for a day or two and ask God to help you get that way, you will get that way. And you will voluntarily and willingly deal your bread to a hungry person.

You will find great favor with God dealing your bread to a hungry person or giving to help feed the hungry.

Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him...

Isaiah 58:7

Someone may say, "I can't do that." Yes, you can! You may not be able to do that today, but if you will fast a day or two you will be able to. Because God will give you that kind of love.

...that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Isaiah 58:7

No, don't hide yourself from your own flesh. Put your flesh under subjection in Jesus' name.

The Glory of the Lord as Your Reward

If you will do these things, verse 8 tells you what will happen to you.

Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily [health will return to your body, and disease will disappear]: **and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy re-reward.**

Isaiah 58:8

The glory of the Lord shall be thy reward! That promise is for you if you will fast for two or three days until you put your flesh under subjection. Get your spirit strong enough to believe God and break every yoke in your life. Rebuke those yokes in Jesus' name.

The glory of the Lord will be your reward when you get your heart and mind in a good shape, to the point where you voluntarily feed the poor and help somebody get some clothes, to the point where you will say, "I'll help you." Don't put it on somebody else. "I'll help you."

You may say, "I don't have any money. What happens if I meet a man with no shirt?" Well, give him one of yours.

When you get yourself in that kind of shape, then this is what will happen:

Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity.

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day.

Isaiah 58:9,10

Thy darkness turns into noonday and the sun shall shine so brightly. Now look what God says He will do for you: **And the Lord shall guide thee continually...** (Isaiah 58:11). Those that are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Isaiah 58:11

If you are having trouble finding a job, fast for two or three meals and pray, claiming a job. Claim the door of employment to swing wide open to you in Jesus' name. If you will do that, you can get a job when nobody else can get one. God will make a way for you where there is no way.

...and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach,

The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Isaiah 58:11,12

Respect the Sabbath

You need to understand this if you are going to be successful in life: If you will please the Lord on His Sabbath day and bring to Him some of what you made that week, the

Lord says the blessings of heaven will fall on you. God says if you will keep the Sabbath day holy, and go to church on the Sabbath day, and worship and praise Him, He will restore you; He will keep you young; He will preserve you. Look at verses 13 and 14:

If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words.

Isaiah 58:13

You are to respect the Sabbath and come into the house of the Lord. God says if you will bypass all the things you want to do, all the words you want to speak, all the pleasure you desire, if you will bypass your ways and come on the Sabbath day to the holy tabernacle of the Lord and honor God Himself with your presence, then verse 14 is yours.

Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 58:14

God loves for you to be in His presence, in His house. That's where He wants you. And He wants you to get to know Him intimately, so you can break free of every yoke.

Get your mouth in agreement with your heart, and walk in the fullness of His blessings.

About the Author

Norvel Hayes shares God's Word boldly and simply, with an enthusiasm that captures that heart of the hearer. He has learned through personal experience that God's word can be effective in every area of life and that it will work for anyone who will believe it and apply it.

Norvel owns several businesses which function successfully despite the fact that he spends more than half

his time away from the office, ministering the Gospel throughout the country. His obedience to God and his willingness to share his faith have taken him to a variety of places. He ministers in churches, seminars, conventions, colleges, prisons — anywhere the Spirit of God leads.

GETTING TO KNOW GOD

Norvel Hayes shares vital principles from the bible to help you get to know God intimately. If you want to be set free from every chain of bondage in your life, if you want to receive every blessing God intends for you to have — then get to know God *yourself.*

NORVEL HAYES, a successful businessman, has learned through personal experience that God's Word works for anyone who will believe and apply it. He shares with a bold simplicity that captures the heart of the reader and shines new light on hidden treasures.

